

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

## Epping Rural District

For the Year 1923.



BUCKHURST HILL :

JOHN W. PHELP, PRINTER, QUEEN'S ROAD,

1924.

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#### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	36,705 acres.
Population (1923)	...	...	...	...	...	14,720
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)...	...	...	...	...	...	3,878 (approximate)
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£109,102
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£394 15s. 2d.

Rainfall for the year :—

	1921	1922	1923
January ... ..	1·76	2·99	1·40
February ... ..	0·55	1·57	2·94
March ... ..	0·95	1·80	1·82
April ... ..	1·77	2·66	1·52
May ... ..	1·11	0·75	1·68
June ... ..	0·20	1·36	0·61
July ... ..	0·21	3·32	1·41
August ... ..	0·96	2·17	1·74
September ... ..	2·82	2·93	1·52
October ... ..	1·02	1·44	4·54
November ... ..	1·52	1·43	1·74
December ... ..	1·29	2·39	2·19
	—	—	—
	14·16	24·81	23·11
	—	—	—

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			M.	F.	
Births	{ Legitimate ...	...	124	138	} Total 271
	{ Illegitimate...	...	7	2	
Deaths	...	...	104	76	Total 180
Birth rate per 1,000 Population			...	...	18'41
Death rate			...	...	12'22
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of					
Child Birth			...	...	None

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:—

Legitimate	...	11	} Total 12
Illegitimate	...	1	

(This equals an Infantile Mortality Rate of 44'28 per 1,000 Births.)

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	None
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	None
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	1

Ages at which Deaths occurred:—

Under 1 year	...	...	12
1 and under 2	...	...	1
2 „ „ 5	...	...	0
5 „ „ 15	...	...	1
15 „ „ 25	...	...	4
25 „ „ 45	...	...	9
45 „ „ 65	...	...	43
65 and upwards	...	...	110
			—
			180
			—

*Comparative Table of Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1923.*

(Provisional Figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1923, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1922. The Mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH- RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under One Year.
—												
England and Wales	19·7	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·14	0·03	0·10	0·07	0·22	0·44	7·7	69
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	20·4	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·15	0·03	0·12	0·09	0·22	0·40	9·9	72
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	19·8	10·6	0·01	—	0·19	0·02	0·10	0·06	0·21	0·38	6·4	69
London	20·2	11·2	0·01	0·00	0·08	0·02	0·09	0·13	0·17	0·45	10·2	60
Epping Rural District	18·41	12·22	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·20	0·20	3·6	44·28

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

		All Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Removed to Isolation Hospital
Erysipelas ...	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Diphtheria ...	...	11	—	1	5	4	—	1	—	11
Chicken Pox	...	25	—	7	15	3	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	24	—	9	11	3	1	—	—	22
Pneumonia ...	...	6	—	1	1	1	1	2	—	—
Pulmonary Tuber- culosis	M F	9 3	— —	1 —	2 —	1 —	2 2	3 1	— —	— —
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	M F	2 1	— —	2 —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Totals ...	...	84	—	21	35	12	6	9	1	33

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified.

### SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, ETC., AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Home Nursing is not provided by the Council.

There are Ten Certified Midwives practising in the District.

#### CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

All the obligations under these services have been transferred to the Essex County Council by arrangement.



There is a Child-Welfare Centre at Theydon Bois. The work is carried out by a staff of voluntary helpers organized by the local branch of the British Red Cross Society and the District Nurse.

#### HOSPITALS.

An Isolation Hospital is provided for the treatment of certain infectious complaints.

Arrangements have been made with the West Ham Corporation for the admission and treatment of cases of Small-Pox in the West Ham Small-Pox Hospital. A Special Ambulance can be obtained for the removal.

#### AMBULANCE.

A Motor Ambulance, stationed at Epping, available for non-infectious cases, is provided by the British Red Cross Society. A Horse Ambulance for certain infectious cases is maintained by the Council.

#### LABORATORY WORK.

Bacteriological Examinations are made free of cost to the patient by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 91, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4. Doctors practising in the District extensively make use of this arrangement, especially with regard to Diphtheria and Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Anti-diphtheria Serum can be obtained from the Medical Officer of Health.

Samples of water from wells in the District are frequently examined by the Medical Officer of Health.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS, ETC., relating to Public Health in force in the District :—

- (1.) Building Bye-Laws for entire District.
- (2.) Slaughter-house Bye-Laws for Entire District.
- (3.) Public Health Amendment Act, 1890 (Part 3 only).
- (4.) Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1890.
- (5.) Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops Regulations.
- (6.) Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885, Tents, Vans and Sheds.

## SUMMARY OF THE WORK

of the Sanitary Department during the Year  
and Action taken under the Public Health  
Acts or Bye-Laws.

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,187
Floors re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Gutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
New Drains laid	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drains repaired or un-stopped	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Closets repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Privies and Cesspools cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Water Closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Privies abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Flush Cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dust Bins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Animal Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water Cisterns covered	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ditches cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Window Sash Cords repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Yards paved	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

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Approx. Number of Water Closets with Cisterns	...	1,785
"          "          "          "          without	...	463
"          "          Pail Closets	...	1,126
"          "          Privies	...	529

There are 15 Bakehouses in the District, all of which have been visited frequently during the year. Three Notices to cleanse and limewash were served and complied with.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are Ten Slaughterhouses in the District. The following Notices were served and complied with, viz. :—

To repair Walls	...	...	...	...	1
To repair Floor	...	...	...	...	2
To Limewash	...	...	...	...	5

The premises are in good order and generally well looked after.

One tuberculous cow was surrendered owing to its being totally unfit for human consumption.

A consignment of fish was also surrendered owing to decomposition.

## COWSHEDS.

Number on Register	...	...	...	67
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	314
Premises cleansed and limewashed	...			34
Manure removed	...	...	...	8
Floors re-laid or repaired		...	...	8
Drains unstopped	...	...	...	3
New Drains laid	...	...	...	7
Improved ventilation and lighting			...	5
New Cowsheds provided		...	...	3
Cows cleansed	...	...	...	12

## WATER SUPPLY.

Samples of Water taken for Analysis	...	9
„ „ reported Good	...	7
„ „ „ Polluted	...	1
„ „ „ Doubtful	...	1



## DISINFECTION.

The Disinfection of infected premises is carried out by fumigation and spraying. The Occupier is instructed to thoroughly cleanse with hot water and soap afterwards. Infected bedding and clothing are removed to the Steam Disinfector.

WALTER BEARD, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

	Contribution towards Salary.	Qualifications, Certificates, etc.
Part time Medical Officer of Health.	Yes.	M.D., D.P.H.
Whole time Chief Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor.	Yes.	M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.
Whole time Assistant Sani- tary Inspector	No.	M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

The services of a Health Visitor are provided by the Essex County Council.

## HOUSING.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts,								
1919 or 1923	...	...	...	...	...	...	none	

## UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

## I.—INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of Dwelling-houses Inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	151
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were Inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	103
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	none
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	106

## II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	65
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## III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. *Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.*

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	58
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(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—			
(a) by Owners ... ..	36		
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	none		
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close ... ..	none		

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	48		
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—			
(a) by Owners ... ..	29		
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	none		

C. <i>Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &amp;c., Act, 1909. ... ..</i>	none		
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W. F. ERSKINE, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

